



Region 2 Headquarters  
3201 Spurgin Road  
Missoula, MT 59804  
Phone 406-542-5500

February 14, 2019

Dear Interested Citizen:

Enclosed you will find for your review the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposal to conduct forested habitat restoration treatments on approximately 1,492 acres within its Threemile Wildlife Management (TWMA) northeast of Stevensville in Ravalli County. The objectives of the treatments are: 1) improve elk and deer winter forage, 2) restore open stand conditions dominated by large-diameter ponderosa pine, 3) restore a stand structure that would allow fire to burn at low severity appropriate for the habitat type, 4) reduce fuel loading, 5) reduce susceptibility to bark beetle infestation, and 6) promote aspen growth and regeneration.

The EA may also be obtained by mail from Region 2 FWP, 3201 Spurgin Rd., Missoula 59804; by phoning 406-542-5540; by emailing [shrose@mt.gov](mailto:shrose@mt.gov); or by viewing FWP's Internet website <http://fwp.mt.gov> ("News," then "Recent Public Notices," beginning February 15). Comments may be made online on the EA webpage or may be directed by mail or email to the addresses above. Comments must be received by FWP no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 18, 2019.

As part of the decision-making process under the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), I expect to issue the Decision Notice for this EA soon after the end of the comment period. The Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission has the final decision-making authority for FWP land leases, and the Commission will be asked to render its decision on this proposal at its regularly scheduled April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Sincerely,

Randy Arnold  
Regional Supervisor

RA/sr